THE

HISTORY

OF

Guy, Earl of Warwick.

Derby: Printed by J. Drewry, 1796.

BRITISH MUSEUM

The HISTORY of Guy, Earl of Warwick.

CHAP. I.

Guy's Praise. He falls in Love with fair Phillis.

IN the blessed Time when Athelstone, wore the crown of the English-nation, Sir Guy (Warwick's mirr r and all the world's wonder) was the chief hero of the age; whose process so surpassed all his pre' cessors, that the trump of fame so loudly sounded War ick's praise, that Jews, Turks, and Infidels became acquainted with his name.

But as Mars, the God of Battle was inspired with the beauty of Venus, so our Guy, by no man conquered was conquered by love; for Phillis the fair, whose beauty and virtue were ineſtimable shining with ſuch heavenly luſtre, that Guy's poor heart was raviſhed in adoration of his heavenly Phillis, whoſe beauty was ſo excellent, that Helen the pride of all Greece, might ſeem as a Black a Moor to her.

Guy reſolving not to ſtand doating at a diſtance, went to Warwick caſtle, where Phillis dwelt, being daughter and heireſs to the Earl of Warwick; the Earl her father hearing of Guy's coming, entertained him with great Joy; after ſome time the Earl invited Guy to go hunting with him; but he finding himſelf unable to partake of the diverſion, feigned himſelf ſick. The Earl, troubled for his friend Guy, ſent his own phyſician to him.—The doctor told Guy his diſeaſe was dangerous, and without letting blood there was no remedy.—Guy replyed, I know my body is diſtempered; but you want ſkill to cure the inward inflammation of my heart; Galen's herbal cannot

quote the flower I like for my remedy I know my own diſeaſe, Doctor, and am obliged to you.

The Doctor departed, and left Guy to caſt his eyes on the heavenly face of his Phillis, as ſhe was walking in a Garden full of roſes and other flowers.

CHAP. II.

Guy courts fair Phillis, ſhe at firſt denies, but afterwards grants his Suit, on Conditions which he accepts.

GUY immediately advanced, to Fai Phillis, who was repoſing herſel in an harbour, and ſaluted her with bende knees. All hail, fair Phillis, flower o beauty, and jewel of virtue, I know gre princes ſeek to win thy love, whoſe e quiſite perfections might grace the migh tieſt monarch in the world: yet may the come ſhort of Guy's real affection; whom love is pictured with naked trut and honeſty, diſdain me not for being ſteward's ſon, one of thy father's ſervant

Phillis interrupted him, saying, Ceaſe bold youth, leave off this paſſionate addreſs.—You are but young and meanly born, and unfit for my degree; I would not my father ſhould know this paſſion.

Guy, thus diſcomfited, lived like one diſtracted, wringing his hands, reſolving to travel through the world to gain the love of Phillis; or death to end his miſery. Long may dame Fortune frown, but when her courſe is run ſhe ſends a ſmile to

cure the hearts that have been wounded by her frowns; so Cupid sent a powerful dart, representing to her a worthy knight of chivalry, saying, This knight shall become so famous in the world, that his actions shall crown everlasting posterity. When Phillis found herself wounded she cried, O pity me, gentle Cupid, solicit for me to thy mother, and I will offer myself up at thy shrine.

Guy, little dreaming of this so sudden thaw, and wanting the blame of love to be applied to his sores, resolves to make a second encounter.—So coming again to his Phillis, said, Fair Lady, I have been arraigned long ago, and now am come to receive my just sentence from the tribunal of love: It is life or death, fair Phillis, I look for;—let me not languish in despair, give Judgment, O fair, give Judgment, that I may know my doom; a word from thy sacred lips can cure my bleeding heart, or a frown can doom me to the pit of misery.—Gentle Guy, said she, I am not at my own disposal, you know my fathers name is great in the nation, and I dare not match without his consent.

Sweet lady ſaid Guy, I make no doubt but quickly to obtain his love and favour, let me have thy love firſt, fair Phillis, and there is no fear of thy father's wrath preventing us.—It is an old ſaying, get the good-will of the daughter, and that of the parent will ſoon follow.

Sir Guy, quoth Phillis, make thy bold atchievements and noble actions ſhine abroad, glorious as the ſun, that all oppoſers may tremble at thy high applauded name, and then thy ſuit cannot be denied.

Fair Phillis, ſaid Guy, I aſk no more.—Never did the hound mind more his game, than I do this my new enterprize. Phillis, take thy farewell, and accept of this kiſs as a ſignet from my heart.

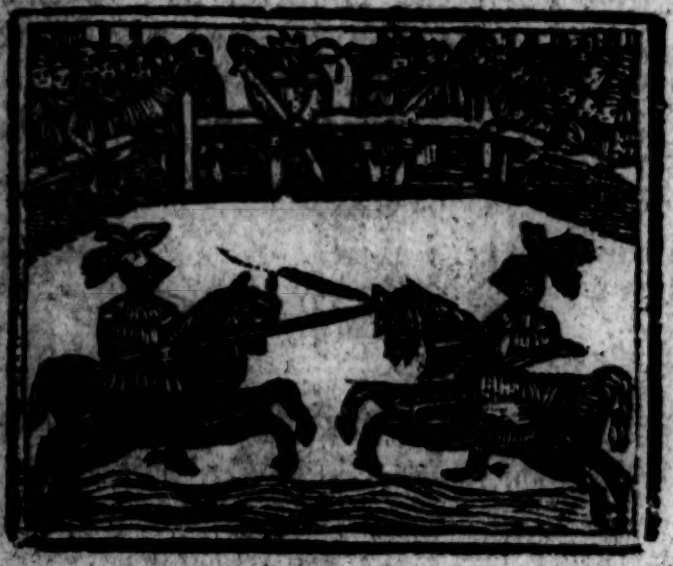
CHAP. III.

Guy wins the Emperor's Daughter from ſeveral Princes. He is ſet upon by ſixteen Aſſaſſins, whom he overcomes.

THUS noble Guy at laſt diſengaged from love's cruelty, he now arms himſelf like a Knight of Chivalry, and croſſing the ranging ocean, he quickly arrived at the court of Thrace, where he heard that the Emperor of Almain's fair daughter Blanch, was to be made a prize for him that won her in the field; upon which account the worthies of the world aſſembled to try their fortunes.——The golden trumpets ſounded with great Joy and triumph, and the ſtately pampered ſteeds prance over the ground, and each thought himſelf a Cæſar, that none could equal; Kings and Princes being there, to behold who ſhould be the conqueror, every one thinking that fair Blanch ſhould be his.

After deſperate charging with horſe and man, much blood was ſhed, and Prince no more valued than vulgar perſons; but our noble Guy appearing, laid about him like a lion, among the Princes; here lay one headleſs, another without a leg or an

arm, and there a horſe.—Guy ſtill like Hercules, charged deſperately, and killed a German Prince, and his horſe under



him. Duke Otto vowing revenge upon our Engliſh champion, gave Guy a freſh aſſault, but his courage was ſoon cooled. Then Duke Poyner would engage our favorite Knight; but with as little ſucceſs as the reſt, ſo that no man could encounter Guy any more; by which valour he won he lady in the field as a prize, being the approved conqueror.

The Emperor himſelf being a ſpectator, he ſent a meſſenger for our Engliſh knight.—Guy immediately came into the Emperor's preſence, and made his obeyſance; when the Emperor as a token of affection, gave him his hand to kiſs, and withal reſigned him his daughter, and falcon and the hound.—Guy thanked his

Majeſty for this gracious favour, but for fair Phillis's ſake, left fair Blanch to her father's tution, and departed from that graceful court, only with the other tokens of victory.

Now Guy beginning to mediate upon his long abſence from his fair Phillis, and doubting of her proſperity; or that ſhe

might too much forget him, becauſe the proverb ſays, Out of Sight, out of Mind; prepared for England, and at laſt arrived at the long-wiſh'd for haven of his love; and with this ſort of ſalutation greeted his beloved miſtreſs; Fair foe, ſaid he, I am now come to challenge your promſe, the which was, upon my making my name famous by martial deed, I ſhould be the maſter of my beloved miſtreſs.—Behold, fair Phillis, part of the prize which I have won in the field, before Kings and Princes.

Worthy Knight, quoth Phillis, I have heard of thy winning the Lady Blanch from royal Dukes and Princes, and I am glad to find that Guy is ſo victorious.—But indeed Guy thou muſt ſeek more adventures.

Guy, diſcomfited at this anſwer, taking leave of his fair Phillis, clad himſelf again in Bellona's livery, and travelled towards Sedgwin, Duke of Novain, againſt whom the Emperor of Almain had then laid ſiege.—But as Guy was going his intended journey, Duke Otto, whom Guy had diſgraced in battle, hired ſixteen baſe traitors to ſlay him. Guy being ſet up-

on by these rogues; drew his sword, and fought till he had slain them all; and leaving their carcases to the fowls of the air, he pursued his journey to Louvain, which he found closely besieged, and little resistance could the Duke make against the Emperor's power.—Guy caused the Levinians to fall forth, and made a most bloody slaughter amongst the Almains; but the Emperor gathering more forces, renewed the siege, thinking to starve them out; but Guy in another sally defeated the Almains, slaying in these two battles about thirty thousand men.—After this Guy made a perfect league between the Emperor and the Duke, gaining more praise thereby than by his former victories.

CHAP.

CHAP. IV.

Guy having performed great Wonders Abroad, returns to England, and is married to Phillis.

AFter a tedious journey Guy ſat down by a ſpring to refreſh himſelf, and he ſoon heard a hedious noiſe, and preſently eſpied a lion and a dragon fighting biting and tearing each other; but Guy perceiving the lion ready to faint, encountered the dragon, and ſoon brought the ugly Cerberes roaring and yelling to the ground.—The lion in gratitude to Guy run by his horſes ſide like a trueborn ſpaniel, till lack of food made him retire to his wonted abode.

Soon after Guy met with the Earl of Terry, whoſe father was confined in his caſtle by Duke Otto; but he and that Lord poſted thither, and freed the caſtle immediately; and Guy in an open field ſlew Duke Otto hand to hand; but his dying words of repentance moved Guy to remorſe and pity.

But as Guy returned through a deſart, he met a furious boar that had ſlain many Chriſtians. Guy manfully drew his ſword

and the boar gaping, intending with his dreadful tusks to devour our noble Champion; but Guy run it down his throat, & slew the greatest boar that ever man beheld

At Guy's arrival in England, he immediately repaired to King Athelstone, at York, where the King told Guy of a mighty Dragon in Northumberland, that destroyed Men, Women, and Children.— Guy desired a guide, and went immediately to the dragon's cave, when out came the monster, with eyes like flaming fire;

Guy charged him courageously, but the monster bit the lance in two like a reed;

then Guy drew his ſword, and cut ſuch gaſhes in the dragon's ſides, that the blood and life poured out of his venemous carcaſe. Then Guy cut off the head of the monſter, and preſented it to the King, who in memory of Guy's ſervice, cauſed the picture of the Dragon being thirty Feet in length, to be worked in cloth of arras, and hung up in Warwick Caſtle for an everlaſting monument.

Phillis hearing of Guy's return and ſucceſs, came as far as London to meet him, where they were married with much joy and triumph: King Athelſtone, his Queen the chief Nobles and Barons of the land being preſent.

No ſooner were their nuptials celebrated, but Phillis's father died, leaving all his eſtate to Sir Guy; and the King made him Earl of Warwick.

CHAP. V.

Guy leaves his Wife, and goes a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

IN the very height of Guy's glory, being exalted to all his father's dignities, Conſcience biddeth him repent of all his former ſins, and his youthful time, ſpent in the behalf of women; ſo Guy reſolved to travel to the Holy Land like a Pilgrim, Phillis, perceiving this ſudden alteration, enquires of her Lord what was the cauſe of this paſſion?—Ah! Phillis, ſaid he, I have ſpent much time in honouring thee, and to win thy favour, but never ſpared one minute for my ſoul's health in honouring the Lord.

Phillis, though very much grieved, underſtanding his determination, oppoſed not his will—So with exchanging their rings, and melting kiſſes, he departed like a ſtranger, from his own habitation taking neither money nor ſcrip with him, and but a ſmall quantity of herbs and roots, ſuch only as the wild fields could

afford, were his chief diet; vowing never to fight more but in a juſt cauſe.

Guy, after travelling many tedious miles, met an aged man oppreſſed with grief, for the loſs of fifteen ſons, whom

Armarant, a mighty Giant had taken from him, and held in ſtrong captivity. Guy borrowed the old man's ſword, and went directly up to the caſtle gate, where the giant dwelt, who coming to the door, aſked grimly, How he durſt ſo boldly to knock at the gates? vowing he would eat his brains out. But Guy laughing at him, ſaid Sirrah, thou art quarrel-

ſome;—but I have a ſword has often hewn ſuch lubbards as you aſunder:—— At the ſame time laying his blade about the giant's ſhoulders, that he bled abundantly, who being much enraged, flung his club at Guy, with ſuch force, that it beat him down, and before Guy could recover his tall, Armarant had got up his club again. But in the end Guy killed this broad back'd dog, and releaſed divers captives that had been in thrawldom many years, ſome almoſt famiſhed, and others ready to expire under various tortures.—They returned thanks to Guy for their happy deliverance; after which he gave up the caſtle and keys to the old man and his fifteen ſons.

Guy purſued his intended journey; and coming to a grave, he took up a worm-eaten ſkull, which he thus addreſſed—Perhaps thou wert a Prince, or a mighty Monarch, a King, a Duke, a Lord!—But the Beggar and the King muſt all return to the earth; and therefore man had need o remember his dying hour. Perhaps thou mighteſt have been a Queen, or a Ducheſs, or a Lady, garniſhed with

meat lying in the grave, the ſepulchre of all creatures.

While Guy was in this repenting ſolitude, fair Phillis, like a mourning widow, cloathed herſelf in ſable attire, and vowed chaſtity in the abſence of her beloved huſband. Her whole delight was in divine mediations and heavenly conſolations, praying for the welfare of her beloved Lord, fearing ſome ſavage monſter had devoured him.—— Thus Phillis ſpent the remainder of her life in ſorrow for her dear Lord; and to ſhew her humility, ſhe ſold her jewels and coſtly robes, with which ſhe uſed to grace King Athelſtones court, and gave the money freely to the poor; ſhe relieved the lame and the blind, the widow and the fatherleſs, and all thoſe that came to aſk alms; building a large hoſpital for aged and ſick people, that they might be comforted in their ſickneſs and weak condition.—And according to this rule ſhe laid up treaſure in heaven, which will be paid again with life everlaſting.

Mean time Guy travelled through many lands and nations; at laſt in his journey he met the Earl of Terry, who had

been exiled from his territories by a merciless traytor.—Guy bid him not be dismayed, and promised to venture his life for his restoration. The Earl thanked Guy most courteously, and they travelled together against Terry's enemy. Guy challenged him into the field, and there slew him hand to hand, and restored the Earl to all his lands.

The Earl begged to know the name of his champion, but Guy insisted to remain in secret, neither would he take any gratuity for his services.

Thus was the noble Guy successful in all his actions, and finding his head crowned with silver hairs, after many years travel, he resolved to lay his aged body in his native country, and therefore returning from the Holy Land, he came to England, where he found the nation in great distress, the Danes having invaded the land, burning cities and towns, plundering the Country, and killing men, women and children; insomuch that King Athenstone was forced to take refuge in his invincible city of Winchester.

CHAP.

CHAP. VI.

Guy fights with the Giant Colborn, and having overcome him, discovers himself to the King; then to his wife and dies in her Arms.

THE Danes having Intelligence of King Athelstone's retreat to Winchester, drew all his forces thither, and seeing there was no ways to win the city, they sent a summons to King Athelstone, desiring that an Englishman might combat with a Dane, and that side to lose the whole whose champion was defeated.

On this mighty Colborn singled himself from the Danes, and entered upon Morn Hill, near Winchester, breathing venomous words, calling the English cowardly dogs, that he would make their carcasses food for ravens.—What mighty boasting, said he, hath there been in the foreign nations of these English cowards, as if they had done deeds of wonders, who now like foxes hide their heads.

Guy hearing proud Colborn, could no longer forbear, but went immediately to the King, and on his knees begged a combat; the King liking the courage of the

Pilgrim, bid him go and proſper.—Guy walking out at the North Gate to Mornhill, where Colborn the Daniſh champion was.—When Colborn eſpied Guy, he diſdained him, ſaying, Art thou the beſt champion England can afford?—Quoth Guy it is unbecoming a profeſſed champion to rail, my ſword ſhall be my orator. No longer they ſtood to parley, but with great courage fought moſt manfully, but Guy was ſo nimble, that in vain Colborn ſtruck, for every blow fell on the Ground. Guy ſtill laid about him like a dragon, which gave great encouragement to the Engliſh; but Colborn in the end growing faint, Guy brought the giant to the Ground; upon which the Engliſh all ſhouted with ſo much Joy, that peals of echoes rung in the air.—After this battle the Danes retired back again into their own Country.

King Athelſtone ſent for this champion to honour him;—but Guy refuſed honours, ſaying, My Lege, I am a mortal man; and have ſet the vain world at defiance. But at the Kings earneſt requeſt, on promiſe of concealment, Guy diſcovered himſelf to him, which much rejoiced

is heart, and he embraced his worthy hampion; but Guy took leave of his overeign, and went into the Fields where e made him a cave, living very penfive nd ſolitary, and finding his hour drew ear, Guy ſent a meſſenger to Phillis, at he ſight of which ſhe haſted to her Lord, here with weeping joy they embraced each ther.—Guy departed this life in her arms, nd was honourably interred.

His Widow grieving at his death died fteen days after him,

Their EPITAPH.

Under this Marble there lies a Pair,
earce ſuch another in the world there are,
Like him ſo valiant, or like her ſo fair.
His Actions thro' the World have ſpread his Fame,
nd to the higheſt Honours raiſ'd his Name;
or conjugal Affection, and chaſte Love,
he's only equall'd by the bleſt above,
elow they all Perfection did Poſſeſs,
nd now enjoy conſummate Happineſs.

FINIS.

BRITISH MUSEUM